

October 3, 2013

The Common Council met as the Water Utility Board at 7:00 pm on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Jeffries, Fuelling, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Board member Hoehn was not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Chief Beloit; Chief Dixon; John Taylor – PCEDP; Brian Varner; Larry Williams; Sara Manifold – Mount Vernon Democrat; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and arriving during the meeting, Comm. Dieterle.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented. Board member Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Higgins moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the report of the Water Chairman.

Water Chairman Curtis stated he has no report.

Supt. Gray stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Board ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

Brian Varner approached and stated he would like to request an adjustment on his bill at 31 Wolflin Street. He stated he had a pretty significant leak and he has already had one adjustment this year.

Supt. Gray added the usage is back down to normal.

Comm. Dieterle arrived at the meeting.

Board member Curtis moved the adjustment be allowed. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Board voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;
Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.
Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else in the Audience wished to address the Board ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business?

Board member Curtis stated they have had previous discussions about possibly expanding city water service to the north. At that time, they had the option of a possible loan/grant, but they were too late for that program. There are others that are now available but the problem with them is they do not have a study in place. He has been in contact with Bernardin Lochmueller and on October 1 they sent a proposal, a draft copy, of the preliminary engineering report for water service to the north. He then stated options they may be looking at in the future via Indiana Finance Authority and SRF, include loans, a loan with forgiveness, etc. BLA has quoted \$20,000 for the study and it will be done in the next six months, probably sooner, and they will also help the city write any grants that may be involved. With that being said, he then moved the Board give Mayor Tucker the authority to enter into this agreement with BLA. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker Asked if there was any discussion ?

Board member Jeffries asked to be educated on this topic. What is the benefit in doing this ?

Board member Curtis replied more than two years ago, the city was made aware of residents in the area were having water issues (salt in the ground water). Before the city did not have the capacity to service this area, but now with the upgrades complete, the city does have the capacity. He added the city was approached by 4 Rivers and IDEM is also aware of the problem – they would be helping 4 Rivers and at the same time get in the good graces of IDEM, which is always a good thing. Plus, it would open up the area for potential growth. He then stated this would also be in the area as Mr. Lawrence's proposed subdivision. He concluded by stating they have not decided on the final route yet, the study would help with that.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Board voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;
Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.
Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Fuelling moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman, Clerk-Treasurer

The Common Council met immediately following the Water Utility Board on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Jeffries, Fuelling, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Councilman Hoehn was not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Chief Beloit; Chief Dixon; John Taylor – PCEDP; Brian Varner; Larry Williams; Sara Manifold – Mount Vernon Democrat; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and Comm. Dieterle.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Higgins moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees.

Street & Light Chairman Hoehn was not present.

Comm. Dieterle stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Police & Dog Chairwoman Higgins stated she has no report.

Chief Beloit stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Fire Chairman Jeffries stated he has no report.

Chief Dixon stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Sewer Chairman Fuelling stated he has no report.

Supt. Givens stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated they have the Financial Report for September before them and any questions could be directed to Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Council ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda.

Attorney Higgins stated the first item is the third reading of the Ordinance Amending the City of Mt. Vernon Code of Ordinances, Title CI-General Regulations, Chapter 98 – Weeds, Sections 98.03 and 98.04.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass final reading. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-22.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is a public hearing on the 2014 City of Mount Vernon Budget.

Mayor Tucker asked what time the public hearing was scheduled for ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied 7:00 pm.

Mayor Tucker then opened the public hearing by asking if anyone in the Audience wished to speak for or against the proposed 2014 City of Mount Vernon Budget ?

There was no response.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added she received notification from County Auditor Wilderman that the County Council approved their proposed budget during their non-binding review process.

Mayor Tucker then closed the public hearing.

Attorney Higgins stated they are now ready for the 2nd reading of the proposed Ordinance Establishing Appropriations and Tax Rates for the City of Mount Vernon for the Year Ending December 31, 2014.

Councilman Fuelling moved the ordinance pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the 2nd Reading of the proposed Ordinance Establishing Salaries and Wages for the Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Mount Vernon for the Year Ending December 31, 2014.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is a Public Hearing on an Ordinance of Additional Appropriations in the EDIT Fund. She added said ordinance passed first reading at their last meeting.

Mayor Tucker opened the public hearing and asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Council on the additional appropriation ?

There was no response.

Mayor Tucker then closed the public hearing.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the 2nd reading of the Ordinance to Rezone 205 and 301 Brown Street from CG (Commercial General) and RS (Residential Single Family) to M-2 (Medium Manufacturing). She added this passed first reading last meeting and was unanimously recommended by the Area Plan Commission. She further added she has received no calls or comments on this rezoning.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Councilman Curtis moved the rules be suspended. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on final reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-23.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the second reading of the Ordinance Amending the Schedule of Rates and Charges for Weekly Trash Pick-Up to be Collected by the City of Mount Vernon, Indiana from the Customers Served by the Street/Sanitation Department of the City of Mount Vernon, Indiana.

Councilman Fuelling moved the ordinance pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Councilman Jeffries asked if anyone has had any communication on this, as he has not.

Councilman Curtis replied he has not.

Council agreed that no one has had any communication concerning this issue.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the final reading on the Ordinance to Annex the Outlot Adjacent to Westridge Subdivision.

Councilwoman Higgins moved the ordinance pass on final reading. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-24.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is the final reading of the Ordinance to Annex Lakeview Place “B”, Lots 12 through 19.

Councilman Fuelling moved the ordinance pass on final reading. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-25.

Attorney Higgins stated the final item is the final reading of the Ordinance to Annex Western Hills Country Club, including the residential home.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on final reading. Seconded by Councilman Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

Councilman Jeffries stated at the last meeting there was discussion on this ordinance and he asked if there was anyone in the Audience that would like to address this annexation ?

There was no one.

Councilman Jeffries stated there were also no remonstrators at the public hearing.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any other comments ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Jeffries – yes; Fuelling – yes; Hoehn – absent;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-26.

Attorney Higgins stated she has a draft copy of the drug testing policy ready and if anyone has any additions, etc. please let her know. She will get the new policy circulated and read for first reading at the next meeting.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker stated under Old Business is an update on the 9th Street area.
Councilman Curtis stated he has heard patrols have been stepped up and more action has been taken. They are also getting in touch with landlords and they are moving forward on this, as well as other nuisance areas.
Mayor Tucker stated Chief Beloit has been monitoring the situation and between September 16 and 30 there have been 161 extra patrols in the area, which average out to between 10 and 11 per day – EXTRA patrols.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?
Councilman Fuelling stated there will be ribbon cutting at the sewer plant on October 24 at noon. The IDEM Commissioner will be there and that is a good thing. Everyone is invited to attend and celebrate the completion of the CSO project – sandwiches and drinks will be served.
Mayor Tucker added it is quite a big deal when the Commissioner of IDEM comes to town.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Districts.

1st District Councilman Jeffries stated he has no report.

2nd District Councilman Fuelling stated he appreciates all of the nice, paved roads.

3rd District Councilman Hoehn was not present.

4th District Councilman Curtis stated he has no report.

Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins stated she is excited to hear the positive attitude about the downtown area from people. Folks are excited, which is a change, and the city was due.
Mayor Tucker agreed and added the Homeland Security guys that were down doing inspections commented on the number of calls for new businesses they are getting down there.
Councilman Fuelling stated it started with the riverfront and they are taking it on down Main Street.
Mayor Tucker added Councilwoman Higgins will be chairing the 200th Anniversary of Mount Vernon and he stated he believes she is already hard at work on it.
Councilwoman Higgins stated also in 2016 is the 200th Anniversary of the State of Indiana. There will be a torch relay that will travel through all 92 Indiana counties and she would like to tie that into River Days. She concluded by stating she also started a Facebook Page today for the anniversary.

Mayor Tucker stated, as Council is aware, when the meetings were switched to Thursdays, it will still with the understanding there would only be two meetings a month – they are required to meet once a month. With October 31 being the third meeting of the month, he asked Council's wishes.
Councilman Fuelling moved the October 31 meeting be cancelled. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries.
Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion?
There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn. Councilman Curtis moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilman Jeffries. Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman, Clerk-Treasurer